

**A Method and System for a Plurality of Mobile Units to Locate One Another**

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**ABSTRACT**

10 A method and system whereby two mobile units can locate each other is  
presented. A user connects an interface device, such as a personal digital assistance  
(PDA), a wireless phone, a laptop, or a pager, to a mobile unit. The mobile unit regularly  
obtains its location through a location-determining technology (e.g., GPS) and sends the  
location to a service provider computer. The service provider computer maintains a  
database of the current location of all the mobile units, and provides the location of  
15 mobile units to each of the mobile units. The mobile unit communicates with the service  
provider wirelessly through a communication network and a data network, for example  
the Internet.

20 A user of the mobile unit can send messages to other users with a location stamp,  
which indicates the location of the message sender's mobile unit. In addition, a user can  
send a request to be notified when a target mobile unit reaches a reference point. The  
reference point may be defined relative to the location of the requester. Alternatively, the  
reference point may be an address or a landmark. Upon receiving the request, the service  
provider computer tracks the distance between the target mobile unit and the reference  
point, and sends a notification to the requester when the target mobile unit reaches the  
25 reference point.